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PATENTS
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August 17, 2004

FACSIMILE MESSAGE - COVER SHEET

To: Office of Initial Patent Examination's Filing Fax number: 703-746-9195
Receipt Corrections

Company: Patent and Trademark Office

Application No.: 10/817,629

No. of pages: 12 including cover sheet

Filed: April 1, 2004

From: Tuddy Denby for P.G. Scott Born

Our Ref: 2269-15-3

Title: DEVICE OF PROTECTION AGAINST A POLARITY REVERSAL

Message:

Attached please find our Request for Correction of Filing Receipt and supporting documents.

Tuddy Denby for
P.G. Scott Born

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Philippe Bienvenu
Title: DEVICE OF PROTECTION AGAINST
A POLARITY REVERSAL
Application No.: 10/817,629
Filing Date: April 1, 2004
Examiner/Unit: 2836
Attorney Docket No.: 2269-15-3

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION

Date of facsimile transmission: August 17th, 2004

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via facsimile to fax number (703) 746-9195, Office of Initial Patent Examination's Filing Receipt Corrections, on the date indicated below and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents on this 17th day of August, 2004.


Signature

REQUEST FOR CORRECTION OF FILING RECEIPT

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
APPLICATIONS PROCESSING DIVISION
CUSTOMER CORRECTION BRANCH

Status:

A Filing Receipt for the above-referenced patent application has been issued by the PTO. The Filing Receipt sets forth inaccuracies concerning the present application.

The Instant request provides the PTO with correct data so that the records for this patent application may be appropriately updated.

The PTO has misspelled the name of the city of Mr. Bienvenu's address. As is clearly indicated on the Declaration filed with the application on April 1, 2004, the correct address spelling is **Allauch**, France, not Allaucii.

The PTO has made an error in entering the name of the Assignee. As is clearly indicated on the Recordation Cover Sheet and the Assignment filed with the application on April 1, 2004, the company name of Assignee is STMicroelectronics **SA**, not STMicroelectronics S.r.l.

The PTO has made an error in entering the title of the invention. As is clearly indicated on the first page of the application itself and all the transmittals filed with the application on April 1, 2004, the correct title is: Device of Protection Against a **Polarity** Reversal. The PTO has misspelled "polarity."

A copy of the PTO's Filing Receipt with corrections made thereon is included with this request. Reference to the Filing Receipt and the enclosed documents should provide the Office with sufficient evidence to support Applicants' request for correction.

A correction of the Filing Receipt is respectfully requested in this regard.

Should the Customer Correction Branch have any questions concerning this Request For Correction of Filing Receipt a call to the undersigned is strongly encouraged.

Respectfully submitted,

GRAYBEAL JACKSON HALEY LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P.G. Scott Born', written over a horizontal line.

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| APPL NO. | FILING OR 371 (b) DATE | ART UNIT | FILE FEE REC'D | ATTY. DOCKET NO | DRAWINGS | TOT CLMS | IND CLMS |
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| 10/817,629 | 04/01/2004 | 2836 | 1028 | 03-RO-111; B5921US; 2289- | 2 | 20 | 6 |

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2269-15-3 CONFIRMATION NO. 2836

FILING RECEIPT

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JUL 23 2004

Date Mailed: 07/21/2004

Receipt is acknowledged of this regular Patent Application. It will be considered in its order and you will be notified as to the results of the examination. Be sure to provide the U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER, FILING DATE, NAME OF APPLICANT, and TITLE OF INVENTION when inquiring about this application. Fees transmitted by check or draft are subject to collection. Please verify the accuracy of the data presented on this receipt. If an error is noted on this Filing Receipt, please write to the Office of Initial Patent Examination's Filing Receipt Corrections, facsimile number 703-746-9196. Please provide a copy of this Filing Receipt with the changes noted thereon. If you received a "Notice to File Missing Parts" for this application, please submit any corrections to this Filing Receipt with your reply to the Notice. When the USPTO processes the reply to the Notice, the USPTO will generate another Filing Receipt incorporating the requested corrections (if appropriate).

Applicant(s)

Philippe Blenvenu, FRANCE; ✓
Sandra Mattei, Marseille, FRANCE; ✓

Assignment For Published Patent Application

STMicroelectronics S.A. ✓

Domestic Priority data as claimed by applicant

Foreign Applications

FRANCE 03/04144 04/03/2003 ✓

If Required, Foreign Filing License Granted: 07/21/2004

Projected Publication Date: 10/28/2004 ✓

Non-Publication Request: No ✓

Early Publication Request: No ✓

Title

Device of protection against a polarity reversal ✓

03-RO-111; B5921US; 2269-15-3

DEVICE OF PROTECTION AGAINST A POLARITY REVERSAL ✓**PRIORITY CLAIM**

[1] This application claims priority from French patent application No. 03/04144, filed April 3, 2003, which is incorporated herein by reference.

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FIELD OF THE INVENTION

[2] The present invention relates generally to the protection of electronic circuits against a transient polarity reversal of a D.C. supply voltage. The present invention more specifically applies to the protection of circuits for controlling loads supplied by a D.C. battery, for example, in the automobile field.

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BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

[3] FIG. 1 schematically shows a conventional example of a circuit 1 for controlling a load 2 (Q) supplied by a battery 3.

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[4] Control circuit 1 comprises a switch 11 (generally a MOS transistor) between a D.C. voltage (Vbat) terminal 12 and a terminal 13 of connection of load 2, the other terminal of the load being connected (generally directly) to ground and more generally to the other voltage (terminal 32) of the D.C. power supply than that to which terminal 12 is connected. Circuit 1 generally is an integrated circuit further comprising a terminal 14 of connection to ground and input-output terminals of data exchange (control signals, states, etc.) with a microcontroller 4 (μ C). In the example shown, four terminals 15 to 18 of circuit 1, among

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[5] A switch 5 symbolizes a general switch of the electric circuit, for example, actuated by the ignition key of a vehicle. Switch 5 connects positive terminal 31 of battery 3 to terminal 12.

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[6] Microcontroller 4 is generally supplied by a voltage regulator 6 (VR) receiving, via switch 5 and a diode 61 having its anode connected to the power switch, the battery voltage, and providing a regulated voltage to microcontroller 4.